

Dear Provider,

The state of Maryland has made veterans' health a top priority. Our veterans bring tremendous strengths to our communities, but some are also facing unique health and behavioral health challenges.

Last October, I sent an online survey to licensed behavioral health and primary care professionals asking about their preparation to address veterans' issues and their interest in future training. I was delighted to receive completed surveys from more than 3,000 professionals.

Based on these responses, the University of Maryland and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene have developed a one-day training program addressing the topics that providers rated of greatest interest and need.

The March 22nd training program should strengthen your capacity to work with veterans and their families, addressing such important topics as PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury, and their co-morbidities; women veterans' health; child and family adjustment issues; sleep disorders and nightmares; and suicide prevention. Providers will learn new clinical strategies as well as acquire brief screening tools and resources to address these issues. Nationally-recognized speakers from the Center for Deployment Psychology, the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, and my Department will share their expertise with providers at three training sites.

I encourage you to click on the following link to learn more about the training and to register for the conference, which will provide 6.5 CEUs: <http://tinyurl.com/mdveteransregistration>

Thank you again for your commitment to Maryland veterans and their families.